



HF Happenings 544

February 2013

South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

ARRL International DX CW Contest, 16 and 17 February
SARL Youth Sprint, 08:00 to 10:00 UTC 23 February
SARL Digital Contest, 13:00 to 16:00 UTC 24 February

SARL National Field Day

For those who did not bother to read the rules of the National Field Day before the event - yes, I have picked up some comments in the logs received.

4. Entry Categories

Class A - Field Station - Multi operator:

Class B - Field Station - Multi operator - QRP:

Class C - Field Station - Single Operator:

Class D - Field Station - Single Operator - QRP:

*Class E - Ultra light portable: Light weight self contained stations, operating QRP and low power such as RaDAR, Summits on the Air, Parks on the Air (game and nature reserves), Islands on the Air, Heritage sites, etc. **This class was added for the 2013 contests***

Class F - General stations: Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. **In 2012, this was Class E!**

7. Exchange. Number of transmitters, Field Day operating Class and Provincial Abbreviation. **A RS(T) report and/or serial number is NOT required.**

10. Sponsor.

Note: A photo(s) of the station (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry. **This was added for the 2013 contests.** It is not to check up on you, we are looking for amateur radio in action photographs for Radio ZS, the SARL Diary of Events and other SARL publications and Power-Point shows.

DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, is now accepting the following operations for DXCC credit:

** 5X8C - Uganda; Current Operations commenting in 2012

** T6BP - Afghanistan; Current operation commenting 2011

T6TJ - Afghanistan; Current operation commenting 2012

If you have had cards declined (except LoTW applications), please send an e-mail to bmoore@arrl.org to be placed on the list for an update.





** These operators have uploaded logs to Log Book of The World (LoTW). If your QSOs were only via LoTW they were not imported to DXCC since at the time of your application these were not yet approved. LoTW QSOs can be reclaimed via your next submission only. (Thanks Tjerk, ZS6P)

Request by a Learner for Assistance with Propagation Study

The following is a request by Dané de Witt, ZU6DD, for assistance with a propagation study, "I am at present a grade 10 learner and I am busy with a scientific school task. The requirement for the task is to ask a question about a subject and then do measurements or to collect data in order to answer the question. I decided to do something about amateur radio. I wish to learn more about propagation on the 40 metre band. To this end, I built a Morse code beacon. The beacon operates on 7 048 kHz and transmits a Morse code message at about 12 wpm and runs at 100 milliwatts. I would like to receive as many reports as possible on the beacon signal in order to make my research meaningful and for that, I need the assistance of radio amateurs. Please listen, and if you hear the signal, send a signal report to me."

Read more about the project on www.grz.com and search for my call sign ZU6DD or go to <http://tinyurl.com/beaconproject>. There is a description and photos of the beacon project. Signal reports must include the date, time and grid square reference. My e-mail address is zu6dd@krypton.co.za, or it may be sent by SMS to 082 771 3976.

SARL News (and HF Happenings) friendly requests radio amateurs to respond to this request from an enthusiastic young radio amateur.

February 2013

2 and 3 - AWA CW Activity Day
9 and 10 - SARL National Field Day
11 - Midmar Mile Swim
13 - Ash Wednesday
14 - Valentine's Day
16 and 17 - ARRL International DX CW Contest
23 - SARL Youth Contest
24 - SARL Digital Contest

Contest results

2012 CQ WPX Phone Contest. Low Power is denoted by an *

Call Sign	Band (A = all)	Final score	No of QSOs	No of Prefixes
<i>Single Operator</i>				
* 7P8PB op Peter Ball, EI7CC	A	144	8	8
* 9J2RI op Chris de Beer, ZS6RI	A	1 656	24	23
Gary Potgieter, ZS5NK	A	80 190	187	162
Quatrus de Witt, ZS6EE	28	1 283 660	831	530
Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL	28	35 964	119	111
* Jacques le Roux, ZS1JY	28	15 478	75	71
* Joop Hesp, ZS6C	28	225	9	9
<i>Assisted</i>				
Allen Saul, ZS1LS	A	104 104	202	182
<i>Multi-op Single Transmitter</i>				
A25HQ		202 170	302	230
V55B		3 758 040	1 658	780
<i>Tribander/Single Element</i>				
Schalk van Vuuren, ZS1LL	28	45	5	5

2012 CQ WPX CW Contest. Low Power is denoted by an *





Call Sign	Band (A = all)	Final score	No of QSOs	No of Prefixes
<i>Single Operator</i>				
Andrew Thompson, V51JY	A	1 447 380	867	510
Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL	A	287 232	363	272
* Barry Nugent, ZS2NF	A	228 890	298	235
* Jacques le Roux, ZS1JY	A	19 738	79	71
<i>Assisted</i>				
Allen Saul, ZS1LS	A	21 484	84	82

2012 IARU HF Championship Results. The committee received 4 054 logs! The Single Operator, CW, Low power was the most popular category, followed by SO, PH, LP. About 2 100 SO stations operated using low power, compared to about 950 using high power. CW was the most popular mode with some 1 260 SO logs, followed by about 1 000 SO phone logs and 900 SO mixed logs. ITU Zone 37 was the most active African area (it covers part of Europe and Africa) - 3V, 7T, CN, EA9, CT, EA, EA6 and ZB2.

Call	Final Score	Category
Barry Nugent, ZS2NF	6 478	Single Operator, Mixed, Low power
Evan Seligman, ZS6ELI	36	Single Operator, Phone, Low Power
Volker Otto, ZS3Y	186 677	Single Operator, Phone, High Power
Gary Potgieter, ZS5NK	11 800	Single Operator, Phone, High Power
Andrew Thompson, V51YJ	229 296	Single Operator, CW, High Power
Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC	1 972	Multi-operator

Call	Final score	QSOs	Multipliers
ZS9HQ	347 420	590	145

ZS9HQ was the only HQ station on the African continent and achieved 50th place out of 60 HQ stations worldwide! Well done to Geoff and the team!

The first CQ WW Phone and CW Contest

The very first CQ WW Phone contest was held over the weekend of 29 to 31 October 1948 and the CQ WW CW Contest on the weekend of 5 to 7 November 1948. Martin, LU5DX, points us to this reproduction of CQ magazine from June 1949 with the complete results. <http://www.qsl.net/ct1boh/cqww/1948.PDF> (4 MB is size and good reading).

He notes that scores were listed in descending order by zone and there was no distinction between number of operators or power. The world-high phone score came from PY2AC at 124 069 points made in what were apparently very poor conditions. CW operators fared better - GI6TK turned in a score of 452 454 points. No station exceeded 1 000 contacts on either weekend! Single-op, multi-op, and single-band categories were created for the 1949 contest. What will operators think of our contest scores in 65 years?

In the phone contest, the following stations from CQ Zone 38 are mentioned:

ZS2CI 54 982 points
 ZS6CT 31 284 points
 ZS5U 12 753 points
 ZS6BV 6952 points (multi-op with ZS6QJ)

In the CW contest, the following stations from CQ Zone 38 are mentioned:





ZD9AA 11 000 points
ZS6CZ 162 936 points (Charles Stiemie ?)
ZS6BV 40 590 points
ZS6DZ 9 312 points
ZS6HM 210 points
ZS6QA, ZS6RE, ZS6KK, ZS6HO, ZS6CT and ZS2X are listed without any scores

Last Man Standing to Feature Amateur Radio

ABC comedy Last Man Standing - starring Tim Allen as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, will prominently feature scenes with cast members using Amateur Radio. According to Last Man Standing Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, the episode called "The Fight" will feature several of the regular cast members talking on the radios. "I cannot say much about the episode right now," Amodeo said, "But this episode has the most significant use of Amateur Radio in a TV comedy.

"In addition to the original KA0XTT station in Mike Baxter's work office, viewers will get to see Mike's amateur radio shack in the basement of his home," Amodeo explained. "A cast member will also be calling in from a portable HF radio while hiking along the Amazon." The ARRL provided many of the awards - including 5 Band DXCC, 5 Band Worked All States, 5 Band Worked All Continents and VUCC - that are on Mike Baxter's home shack wall. The episode, which was filmed February 12, will also feature Richard Karn.

Last Man Standing is shown on M-Net channel 101 on Friday evenings. Multichoice has been approached to supply the date of broadcast but at going to press on Friday evening their reply was still outstanding. In the USA it will be screened in mid-March, SARL News will keep you posted.

African DX

Lesotho, 7P. Dennis, ZS4BS, and Hans, PB2T, are going to visit Gerry, 7P8CC, on Saturday 16 February in Maseru. While they are there, they will be active using the call sign 7P8DG. QSL to ZS4BS.

Uganda, 5X, (Update). Members of the F6KOP team are now active as 5X8C until 18 February from a location some 20 km from Entebbe airport. The crew has been on the air since 7 February, around 15:30 UTC. Reports indicate that some individuals are seeing their QSOs confirmed via LoTW. The log is being uploaded to ClubLog. Check your QSOs at www.5x2013.com/index.php/online-log.

However, the following has been added on Clublog page: "Due to a high number of dupes made by guys trusting the online-log instead of their ears, we decided to STOP the live upload." As this was being typed, the 5X8C team has made over 23k QSO with about 9k unique call signs. Remember, Yann, F1NGP, is their QSL Manager (100% OK Direct, ClubLog's OQRS, Bureau and LoTW). For more details and updates, see <http://www.5x2013.com>

Algeria, 7T50/7T9. Members of the Algerian Radio Amateurs (ARA) will activate special event call signs 7T9A and 7T50ARA to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Algerian Amateur Radio Association. QSL both call signs by the Bureau or direct to PO Box 1, Algiers RP 16000, Algeria. (NO IRCs)





Morocco, CN. EA5CP, EA5YU and EA9BLJ will join the ARRL CW Contest as M/S signing 5C5T with 100 watts and dipoles. They are working also before and after the contest from 14 to 18 Feb. QSL via EA5YU.

Burundi, 9U, (Update). An international team of operators from ON, PA and GM will be on the air from Bujumbura between 14 and 23 February. In total, they will have nine operators and four stations and airing the call sign 9U4U. Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL Manager will be MOURX. A Web site is now online at <http://www.9u4u.be>. This DXpedition will also have a Twitter page <https://twitter.com/9U4U>.

Ethiopia, ET. "The Daily DX" reports that before Ken, K4ZW, heads to Juba, South Sudan, he will go to Addis Ababa and activate the ET3AA club station during the second half of the ARRL DX CW Contest and again the weekend of 22 to 24 February. ET3AA QSOs made by Ken can be confirmed by N2OO.

South Sudan, Z8, (Update). Ken, K4ZW, will be returning to Juba and is expected to be active as Z81Z between 25 February and 6 March. "The Daily DX" reports that Ken is "bringing equipment for the low bands" and will do his best to be active, but work requirements will dictate his schedule. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by LoTW.

African Islands

Marion Island, ZS8. Various sources report the following update (UPDATE #2) by Pierre, ZS1HF [edited]: "David, ZS1BCE, has not been appointed as the radio technician to join the team going down to Marion Island this year.

At this stage, Carson McAfee, ZR6CWI, has been appointed as the Space Weather Engineer and will spend a year on the island. He has appointed me as his QSL Manager and informs me that he will be active from May 2013 to April 2014.

No call sign has been allocated yet and at this stage, he will operate SSB only. Once he returns to Cape Town and I have had time to discuss his operating and equipment requirements, I will supply more information, until then no more information is available. Carson has just completed a year at the SANAE Antarctic Base.

Canary Islands, AF-004, EA8. Luis, EA8AY, announced to be active as EF8USA from Tenerife (DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF, Loc IL28hc) during the ARRL CW Contest. QSL via W2GR. See also <http://www.ea8ay.com/ef8x>

Madeira Archipelago, AF-014, CT3. Rasto, OM3GI, Tibor, OM3RM, and Julo, OM7JG, will sign CR3A from Madeira (DIP MA-001, PIP MD-001, WLOTA 0053) in the ARRL CW Contest. QSL via OM2VL (bureau/direct).

Reunion Island, TO1, (WFF Op). A team of operators from Reunion Island will be active as TO1PF from the UNESCO World Heritage site of "Piton de la Fournaise" [Peak of the Furnace] volcano during the following dates - 23 and 24 February, 11 and 12 May and 3 and 4 August. The volcano is a shield volcano on the eastern side of Reunion Island (AF-016, DIFO FR-001, WWFF FFF-011, WLOTA 1812), with an elevation of elevation 2 632 m. It is currently one of the most active volcanoes in the world. Activity will be on all HF bands and modes. QSL via FR1GZ.





Tunisia, 3V, (Rare IOTA). An International group, along with the Tunisian Radio Amateurs and the Engineering University of Gabes, are planning a second IOTA DXpedition to Djerba Island (AF-083, WFF 3VFF-007, WLOTA L-1394 and ARLHS TUN-022), between 29 April and 6 May. The Association des Radio Amateurs Tunisiens (ARAT) is expected to receive the call sign TS8TI on 15 March. Activity will be on all HF bands, including the 30, 17 and 12-metre bands and the CW, SSB, RTTY, AMTOR and PSK31 modes. They are looking for operators, sponsors and individual contributions.

Special Events

The Netherlands. The special event station PD13BP active from 16 to 28 February celebrates the official Baden-Powell Day (22 February). On 16 and 17 Feb, mainly Girl Guides take part in the "Thinking Day on the Air" (TDOTA) as the Boy Scouts have their Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) in October. QSL via PA3EFR.

Romania. Victor, YO6MP, Lucilius, YO6FPW, Nonu, YO6FUG, Marius, YO6FTV, Doru, YO6CHB, Adi, YO6GBD, and Deszi, YO6UO, who are members of the Sportclub of the University Transilvania Brasov (YO6KSU <http://www.csu.ro>) will activate the special event station YO2013EYOWF from 15 to 24 Feb to celebrate the European Youth Olympic Winter Festival (<http://eyowf2013.ro>). Operation will be on CW, SSB and digital modes on 80 - 10 m. They have also a special award issued in gold, silver and bronze. QSL via YO6MP.

Serbia. On the occasion of the 1 700th anniversary of the Edict of Milan, the special event stations YU313EDICT and YU1700AST will be active until the end of the year. QSLs via YU1AST.

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC

